

Appl. No.: 10/707,335
Amdt. Dated: 1/12/2005
Reply to Office action of: 10/20/2004

AMENDMENTSTOTHEDRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet which includes Figure 1, replaces the original sheet including Figure 1. In Figure 1 the previously omitted identifying numerals have been added for clarity.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Appl. No.: 10/707,335
Amdt. Dated: 1/12/2005
Reply to Office action of: 10/20/2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the specification, the paragraphs [0008], [0009], [0014], and [0015] have been amended to correct minor editorial problems. Paragraph [0017], the abstract, has been amended to comply with the word length requirement and to describe more clearly Applicant's claimed invention. These amendments are supported by Figure 1.

In amended Figure 1, the previously omitted reference numeral (5) showing the "guide" element has been added. Likewise the reference numeral (1) and reference numeral (4) have been added to identify the second "slide" and the second pair of "pivot points".

Claims 1 and 2 remain in this application and have been amended to overcome objections of the Examiner and to correct improper claim style. Support for these amendments is supported by Figure 1.

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(b) as being obvious over Behl (US 2002/0106919 A1). Specifically, the Examiner states:

Behl's device an improved anchoring device a slide (12) closure mechanism device boxes, constituted articulated with a lid or cover (24) of a connector (10), characterized in that said slide consists of respective longitudinal guides running parallel and next to the sides of the body of the connector (3), being articulated to said lid or cover (24) of the connector on a side thereof by means of pivoting points (26), each one of said double points enveloping each one of the profiles of the slide on both lateral sides by means of a pivoting point, constituting an articulation of four pivoting points between the slide (1) and lid or cover (24) of the connector; characterized in that the outer wall of said slide (12) of the connector is coincident with that of the outermost pivoting points (26).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Applicant's claimed invention provides for a pair of pivoting points for each of two slide attaching mechanisms for a lid or cover of an electrical terminal box used in service boxes.

Appl. No.: 10/707,335
Amdt. Dated: 1/12/2005
Reply to Office action of: 10/20/2004

A fair reading of the Behl (US 2002/0106919 A1) reference discloses a rack mounting system mounting or docking a series of memory storage devices particularly memory storage devices having cooling fans. What this cited reference discloses is a

series of docking adapters (12), basically U-shaped frames each of which holds a slide 16 which in turn holds a hard disk drive 20. Each of said slides (16) also having a door (24) and a pair of fans (26) which cool hard disk drives (20). The door (24) closes on a pivot pin hinge (36) to protect the fans (26) and lock the slide (16) in the rack (14). This reference does not disclose, teach, or fairly suggest an electrical connector utilizing two pivot points around each of two slides to lock a cover or lid to an electrical terminal box.

Clearly when viewed in this light the Behl (US 2002/0106919 A1) reference does not disclose, teach, or fairly suggest Applicant's claimed invention and as such Applicant's claimed invention is in condition for allowance.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for clarifying which reference was the basis of his rejection in a phone conference held on 12/09/2004. The original citation in the above-identified office action had an Inventor and a Patent Application Number which did not match. However, Applicant requires clarification of the following points in the Examiner's Office action above identified. The Examiner references a connector (3) and a slide (1) seemingly in the cited Behl (US 2002/0106919 A1) reference but no such items are discussed or identified, nor are the numerals (1) and (3) used in this reference. The Examiner also refers to "pivoting points (26)" but the only reference to numeral (26) in the Behl (US 2002/0106919 A1) reference is to cooling fans. Further clarification is required.

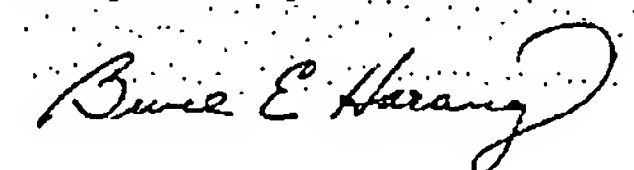
The Behl (US 2002/0106919 A1) reference does not disclose a pair of slides each having two pivot points, nor does it disclose the use four pivot points to strengthen the joint connecting a lid or cover to an electrical box as is claimed in Applicant's invention.

Applicant notes the prior art made of record and considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure but which has not been relied upon as a basis of rejection. Applicant makes no further comments about this prior art made of record.

Appl. No.: 10/707,335
Amdt. Dated: 1/12/2005
Reply to Office action of: 10/20/2004

In view of the remarks herein, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce E. Harang
Registration No. 29,720
Tel.: (360) 903-4693

Attachments